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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,854	03/10/2004	Yu-Liang Lin	Q1220	3759

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EXAMINER

JACOBS, TODD D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3746

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/24/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the entry dated 9/9/2009 and considers all proposed amendments/arguments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 10, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al (5,343,104).

3. In re claims 10, 23 Takahashi teaches a fan structure comprising a hub (12), a motor (218, 217) located inside the hub, a plurality of fan blades (212) connected to the hub, and a circuit board (224) connected to the motor, wherein the circuit board comprises a protrusion (232), extending outside the circumference of the hub, and the protrusion carries thereon a heat-generating component (229; note that a thermistor is a heat generating component since it is a resistor; further note that Stixrud in 5,253,938 teaches that “*In temperature sensing applications the electrical current through the thermistors must be low to minimize self heating errors... Another object is to provide for an improved temperature sensor with less self heating error since part of the output current does not go through a thermistor.*”), and comprises a cutout that extends from a tip of the protrusion to the heat-generating component, wherein the heat generating component comprises at least one integrated circuit or semi-conductor device (Takahashi discloses the thermistor as a chip thermistor and is therefore an integrated circuit (see col 8, line 49 and note that “integrated circuit” on Merriam-Webster dictionary is defined to be “a tiny complex of electronic components and their connections that is produced in or on a

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small slice of material (as silicon)” and so this thermistor chip is considered an IC). Also note that Merriam-Webster dictionary defines a thermistor as “an electrical resistor making use of a **semiconductor** whose resistance varies sharply in a known manner with the temperature”), so that heat generated by the heat generating component is dispersed by an air flow flowing past the protrusion (as shown on Fig 16, air flowing past the protrusion 232 can disperse heat generated by the thermistor 229; note further that the device only needs to be *capable* of having the heat be dispersed by an air flow flowing past the protrusion).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the thermistor of Takahashi is not heat generating, but as shown above this is an inherent property of thermistors. Further, applicant argues that the thermistor of Takahashi is neither a semiconductor nor an integrated circuit. However, as shown above this the thermistor of Takahashi is a chip thermistor (and therefore an integrated circuit, because a chip is an integrated circuit) and also thermistors by definition are semi-conductors.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TODD D. JACOBS whose telephone number is 571-270-5708. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Devon Kramer can be reached on 571-272-7118. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Devon C Kramer/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
3746

/TODD D. JACOBS/
Examiner, Art Unit 3746